Sovereign Grace Church

May 14th, 2023

We gather together
Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. and
Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

"…Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will shew to you to day…"

(Exodus 14:13)

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Sovereign Grace Church

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The author of 'How Shall I Go to God?' conveys that God "asks your consent" (Page 36, Published in 1883, by HB). I'm so glad that our good and ready to forgive God does not condition our salvation upon 'our consent', but rather, ever so blessedly, upon His. We learn in the Gospel that He is the *captain* of our salvation and at that appointed time of love He *conquers* us and gives us eternal life. I'm so thankful and do rejoice, and I trust the believing reader just the same, to hear our Lord declare of His beloved people, *"I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish"* (John 10:28). Notice our Lord says 'give', that is, He sovereignly gives eternal life to His sheep and He does so freely without waiting for our consent. You see reader, God doesn't wait for our consent, oh no, we wait on Him. Reader, *"wait on the LORD, and He shall save thee"* (Proverbs 20:22). Keep looking to the Lord Jesus Christ for all your salvation. Indeed, look and live! Our good and ready to forgive God would have His people to know and rest in this; that by the *blood* and *righteousness* of His Son, because of His once for all sacrifice for sins upon the cross, God tells every sinner who believes, 'your sins and your iniquities will I remember no more' [Hebrews 8:12,10:17]. Beloved, *"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good"* (1st Thessalonians 5:21). AMEN. — JDM

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Welcome

SINNERS are welcome at Sovereign Grace Church. We are a local body of the Lord Jesus Christ. As you spend time with us, you'll soon discover we're an imperfect assembly, with an imperfect pastor, yet by God's *undeserved* grace, we preach, believe, and know the perfect gospel of our never failing Lord Jesus Christ. Reader, we call His name Jesus for He shall (not might, not maybe) rather He shall save His people from their sins. And beloved believing sinner you already know it! You are *complete in Him*, saved to the *uttermost* [Colossians 2:10, Hebrews 7:25].

Announcements

Happy Birthday!

James Richards, June 1st

Resources

BE sure to visit our website for gospel articles, live messages, and resources.

www.sovereigngracechurch.us

Grace Articles

"An Altar Of Earth"

"An altar of earth thou shalt make unto me…" (Exodus 20:24)

EVERY thing, and every service, in the Old Testament dispensation, as well as in the gospel Church, points to Christ. Behold, my soul, in the LORD'S appointment of *"an altar of earth,"* how jealous the LORD is of His honor. If the altar dedicated to the LORD'S service, be of earth, or if it be of stone, there was not to be the least mixture. Nothing hewn, nothing polished by man's art, or man's device: *"for if,"* saith Jehovah *"thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it."* Behold, how fully Jesus was preached here! There can be nothing offered to the LORD for His acceptance, but what is the LORD'S. Jesus is the Father's gift to poor sinners; and when a poor sinner presents before the Father the Lord Jesus, as his whole altar, sacrifice, and offering, he presents to the Father what the Father first presented [and accepted of Himself]. If the sinner were to join any thing of his own with this offering, this were to pollute it. Sweet thought! my soul, cherish it in the warmest of thine affections; carry it about with thee for thy daily exercise of faith upon the person of Jesus, that nothing of thine may mingle with the pure, and *perfect salvation*, which is alone in Him. And, depend upon it, thy God and Father is more honoured, more glorified, and will be more beloved, by such a perfect reliance upon Him, in whom His soul delighteth, than He would be by the greatest and most costly sacrifice of thine own providing. The infinite and eternal worth and efficacy of Jesus's blood and righteousness, is upon everlasting record. God is well pleased with Him, and His people in Him; and a voice from heaven hath proclaimed it to the earth. [Reader] to offer any thing of our own, by way of making it pleadable, is to pollute it; yea, it is to make it questionable, as if we thought it not complete. And by thus doing, we declare that our hearts are not thoroughly pleased with what Jehovah hath declared Himself well pleased, but are seeking to rest our souls, not upon the altar, which is wholly the Lord's, but adding to it of our own. Oh! for grace to make Jesus what the Father hath made Him, the all in all of man's salvation; and [every sinner that believes by God's grace] ever [gives His Son] all the glory, who alone hath accomplished it, "In believing the record that God hath given of His dear Son" [1 John 5:10-12]. AMEN. — Robert Hawker

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Perfect Salvation

"For by one offering He hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified."
(Hebrews 10:14)

IS some poor soul led to say; "Well…what gives a proof that Christ is formed in my soul, the hope of glory?" [To believe on] Christ is *life*. "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." And Christ is *light*. "I am the light of the world," that lighteth every (spiritual) man that cometh into the (spiritual) world. Life and light go together; and when God the Spirit communicates this blessed Christ to the conscience, He communicates *life*, and the sinner begins to feel; and He communicates *light*, and the sinner begins to see. And what does he feel and see? His own emptiness, darkness, blindness, weakness; his own lost condition; and he is brought in real experience before God to be sick of himself, sick of his prayers and his tears and his repentance and his faith, if he professed to have any; he sickens at his vice, and sickens at his piety. A stranger is come into the temple; and He has overturned "the tables of money changers" in the heart, to make room for Himself. This is God's Christ, that is "come in the flesh." All these principles, whether of open profaneness or professed piety, go to ruin. There must be room to realize God's Christ as a *perfect salvation*; and that will never be till we are brought to self-loathing and self-detesting before a heart-searching God. There will be a hard struggle for it too; especially if we have got a little piety. If you are openly profane, when God the Spirit is pleased to reveal the communicable nature of Christ to you, it will not be such a hard struggle to part with open profaneness; but to part with piety and religious duties and church-going and chapel-going and [ordinance]-going and reading the "Whole Duty of Man," and all those pious things—O bless me, it is just like driving a man mad. He imagines he had been a little remiss in some of these things; but then he will not be so again; he will be more diligent and more cautious. But no; God's Christ cuts the man up, root and branch, and leaves him no more help in himself than the damned in hell; and he feels himself as truly cut down as a wretch can be, before a heart-searching God [Romans 7:24-25].

[Reader] have you come to this? If not, you do not know God's Christ, which is "come in the flesh." You my talk a great deal about it, but you have not got into the mystery of it. And all your knowledge, till it begins here, is like the fine oil of antichrist; it is only deceiving you, and wrapping you up in a false odour. You have only got a Christ of your own; and it is antichrist. God's Christ roots up, and brings the poor sinner, not in judgment merely, but in feeling, to say before God, "There is no help in me;" to feel that he can neither will nor do, and to justify that declaration: *"It is not of him that willeth nor of him that runneth, but of God that showeth mercy."* He is brought in his very feelings before a heart-searching God to justify God in condemning him; and he gives God leave (as far as a creature can do) to enter into judgment with [God against himself]; for he says, "Lord, I deserve it, and there is no help in me." [And His people, all those sinners He came into the world to save, we say, "Truth Lord, nevertheless, please be merciful to me a sinner" [Luke 18:9] AMEN]. — William Gadsby

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